

Appl. No. 09/696,116
Amndt. dated 4/13/2005
Reply to the Office Action of 1/13/2005

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of this application as amended is requested. By this amendment, Claims 9-12, 15-16, and 19-20 have been amended, and Claims 8, 13-14, 17-18, and 21-22, have been canceled. After this amendment, Claims 9-12, 15-16, and 19-20 remain pending in this application. Applicant submits that the present response and amendment places the application in condition for allowance or, at least presents the application in better form for appeal. Entry of the present response with amendment is therefore respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner objected to Claims 10, 15, and 19 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Le for indicating the allowable subject matter of Claims 10, 15, and 19. Claims 10, 15, and 19 have been rewritten in independent form including all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. No new matter was added by the amendments to the claims. Applicant submits that amended independent Claims 10, 15, and 19, are now in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully requested. Further all of the other remaining claims have been amended to depend, directly or indirectly, from the newly amended and allowable independent Claims 10, 15, and 19, respectively. Since dependent claims contain all of the limitations of the independent claim, Claims 9-12, 15-16, and 19-20, all should be allowable, which allowance is respectfully requested.

Although the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Final Office Action's rejection of the Claims 8-9, 11-14, 16-18, and 20-22, the Applicant has elected to cancel independent Claims 8, 13, 17, 21, and 22, and to cancel dependent Claims 14 and 18, and further to amend all of the remaining claims solely for the purpose of expediting the

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patent application process in a manner consistent with PTO's Patent Business Goals (PBG), 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (September 8, 2000).

Accordingly, in view of the amendment and remarks above, Applicant believes that the remaining pending Claims 9-12, 15-16, and 19-20, are all allowable. Applicant kindly requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to, and rejections of, these claims, respectively, and further allow these claims to issue in a U.S. patent.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as full and complete response to the Official Action mailed January 13, 2005, and it is submitted that Claims 9-12, 15-16, and 19-20 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the objection and rejection is requested. Allowance of Claims 9-12, 15-16, and 19-20 is earnestly solicited.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities that can be corrected by Examiner's amendment, or that in any way it would help expedite the prosecution of the patent application, a telephone call to the undersigned at (561) 989-9811 is respectfully solicited.

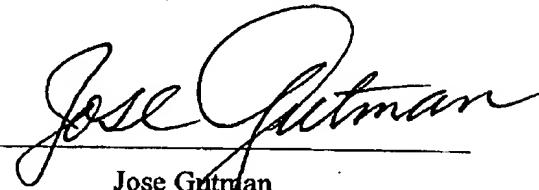
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **50-1556**.

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In view of the preceding discussion, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and re-examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 13, 2005

By: 

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